
Living Springs

3-1978

March 1978 (Vol. 1 No. 7)

Cedarville College

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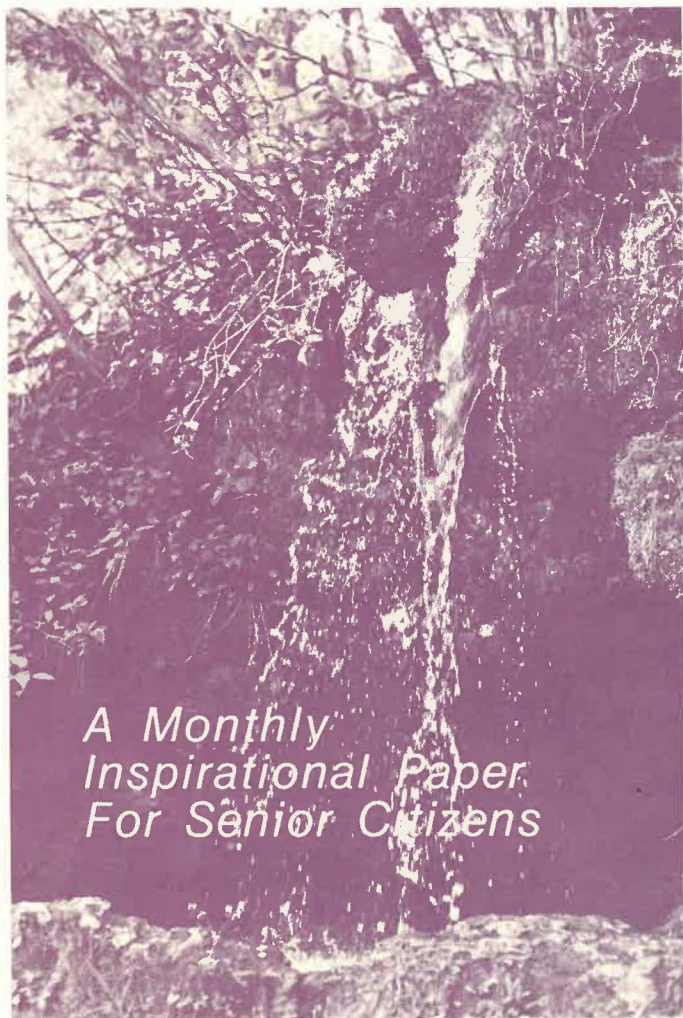
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Living Springs

Vol. 1 No. 7

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*A Monthly
Inspirational Paper
For Senior Citizens*

MARCH 1978



He Is Risen!

by
Mark J. Highman

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is one of the most highly supported yet most challenged doctrines of the Bible. It seems that people will find all sorts of ways to disprove this teaching, and yet every time, my friend, they must fail. No man can stand against the sword of the Lord.

What proofs of the resurrection do we have? Luke 24:3 reads, *"And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus."* Thus, the empty tomb would be one evidence of Christ's resurrection. People have found all kinds of ways to deny this. Some will say that the guards stole His body in order to make sure He did not rise. Others say that the apostles came and stole the body. However, these seem illogical, for in Matthew 28:11-15 we read about the guards' reaction to the missing body. If they had stolen the body, then they certainly would have produced it immediately. Everyone was beginning to believe in the resurrection of Christ, just the very thing they tried to avoid. Strangely, in verse 13 the guards say that the disciples stole the body. Yet what in the world were these guards supposed to be doing on their watch? Were they not to stop anyone from going near the tomb?

As well, it hardly seems likely that the disciples would steal a dead body at the expense of their own lives. What good is a dead body to anyone? In fact, many of these men died because of their belief in the resurrection!

Another evidence of our Lord arising from the dead is the many appearances He made. Acts 1:1-3 speaks of this by saying, *"To whom also He shewed Himself alive after His*

passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Christ appeared to Mary His mother (John 20:16), to Simon Peter (Luke 24:34), to two men traveling to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-14, 25-27, 30-32), to five-hundred other people at one time (I Corinthians 15:6), to the disciples in the upper room (John 20:19), and even to Thomas so as to confirm his faith (John 20:26-29). These men saw Jesus! They bore testimony with their own eyes!

I think an evidence, outweighing any proof we have seen, is the very words of Christ Himself: *"I am He that liveth, and was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore, amen; and have the keys of hell and death,"* (Revelation 1:18). The Lord testifies to His own resurrection, and His revelation (the Bible) reveals His words. His Word shall never mislead us nor forsake us.

What does all this mean to you? The death of Christ was necessary for life. This means that if Christ had not died in our place (for Romans 3:23 says *"all have sinned,"* and Romans 6:23 says that we all must pay the price for sin, which is hell), we would be heading toward eternal death, hell fire. But since Christ died and rose again, He conquered death. Now each truly born-again Christian can have eternal life in heaven, which is actually the only way to live. Praise God!

Here is a final verse to mind. I Corinthians 15:55 says, *"Oh death, where is thy victory?"* May you also be able to hold fast to these words as a born-again Christian, now and forever.

REFLECTIONS of FAITH

The Miracle of God

*A quiet peace over Bethlehem,
In an hour early in morn,
Where the first miracle really happened,
Jesus Christ, through a virgin, was born.*

*But this was only the beginning,
There were many more in time,
Such as Christ going to a wedding,
And turning water to wine.*

*By His miracles people were awed,
For He caused the lame man to walk,
He made blind people to see again,
And the mute He made to talk.*

*But these miracles were only minute,
To the one He had come to fill,
Where one day He took the sinner's place,
As He suffered on Calvary's Hill.*

*On this Hill He died for our sins,
And as God's Word in whole conveys,
Repent, accept Christ - be saved,
For Christ rose again in three days.*

*Today Christ is sitting at the right hand of God,
In Heaven's wonder and glory,
And one day He is coming to gather His own,
Will you be part of this miraculous story?*

*by
M.J. Highman*

Christianity begins where religion ends - with the resurrection

Every day holds the possibility of miracles.

**Taken from LIGHTS FROM THE CHAPEL WINDOW,
compiled by Mary Jess, copyrighted by MOODY
MONTHLY in Chicago.*

Little Pilgrim's Progress

by
Helen L. Taylor



Edited for LIVING SPRINGS
by
Mark J. Highman

Part II

The sun was just setting when Little Christian reached the Wicket Gate. It stood in a beautiful stone archway, and over it hung the light, which burned so brightly that its light could be seen even when the sun was shining. Round the top of the arch was written these words: "KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU."

Little Christian knocked at the door and in a few moments a man opened the door who looked something like Evangelist. He smiled when he saw Little Christian, and said,

"Who is this little child?"

"I am Christian," replied the boy. "May I come in?"

"Are you from the City of Destruction?" asked the man, whose name was Goodwill.

"Yes, and I wish to go to the King."

Goodwill opened the gate quite wide, and led Christian in by the hand. Goodwill then fed Little Christian, and gave him a place to rest. In the morning Goodwill showed Christian a narrow pathway which went straight across the plain, leading to the Celestial City.

"Are there any turnings?" asked Christian. "How shall I know what to do if I come to a crossroad?"

"The way of the King is always quite straight," said Goodwill, "and all the paths that lead out of it are crooked. And the wrong paths are generally wide, while the right path is narrow."

So off Christian went with the morning bright and pleasant, the birds singing so

merrily, and the air so fresh and sweet. Presently he came to a place where there was a little hill by the side of the road, and upon the hill he saw the very thing for which he was longing. There stood the Cross, the place where would at last lose his heavy burden that had made his journey so difficult thus far. At that very moment Little Christian began to climb the path which led to the cross and he felt the bands which fastened his burden, begin to loosen. Then it fell completely from his shoulders and rolled to the bottom of the hill.

"I must be dreaming," thought Christian, but although he stood still for a few minutes, and rubbed his eyes, the burden did not come back. The birds went on singing, and the sun shone brightly upon the Cross, and he knew that he must be awake, and that the King had really taken the weight from his shoulders forever.

Just then he heard a voice behind him saying, "Peace be to thee." Little Christian turned around quickly, and saw three Persons standing close to him. They wore shining white robes, and when Christian looked at them, his eyes dazzled as if he had been gazing at the sun.

"They must have come from the Celestial City," he thought. "They are so bright and beautiful!"

"You have often displeased the King," said one of them, "but I have come to tell you that He has quite forgiven you and your sins will not be remembered anymore." They then dressed Christian in white, gave him a mark upon his forehead, and a little roll of parchment to read along the way. He had to be

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He Gives Life

by
C. Dean Harkness

Everyone needs a friend. Jesus is a friend and He is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). Jesus made the supreme sacrifice of a friend; He gave His life that we might live.

There are many accounts of bravery during war. Many soldiers sacrifice their lives for the lives of their fellow countrymen. The soldier is willing to give his life that his whole country might continue to live.

If you, as an individual, have never believed that Jesus died for your sins and asked for forgiveness, then you are as close to eternal death as a soldier in combat who might be killed at any instant.

Praise the Lord, God has provided the way to eternal life. This Easter season we celebrate the resurrection of Christ (John 20). He chose to die to cover our sins. He obtained victory over death and then rose from the grave after three days. Friend, realize your need and come into the kinship of Christ. In the Bible He shows us how to obtain His life.

Realize you are a sinner (Romans 3:23), and that the results of your sin is death (Romans 6:23). John 3:36 proclaims, *"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."*

Won't you please go to Christ Jesus today??!!

Life in Christ

by
Shar Robinson

Existence, which is the continuous function of the body, is something which everyone experiences. However, genuine living is *living* a life in Christ. Living is more than existing; it is growing and knowing the Giver of life. Once He is a part of your life, you can live!

Christ is spoken of as the Bread of Life - our nutrition, our sustenance. He not only gives us life, but He helps us to continue on in it. When things or people are not there, Christ, our life, is still within us.

Job, after all that he had was swept away, cursed the day of his birth, wishing he had never tasted life. God used this to show Job that life exists in Him, not in things around us.

Too, Jeremiah lamented the day of his birth because people did not respond to God's word. This was used of God to show Jeremiah that life is not from the people around him, but in God Himself. Jonah experienced much the same lesson.

Job, Jeremiah, and Jonah all found that *life*, real living, does not come from anything external; it comes with a genuine relationship with God.

"...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly," (John 10:10).

Mar.	1	Wednesday	John 20:1-10
Mar.	2	Thursday	John 20:10-18
Mar.	3	Friday	Romans 3:23-28
Mar.	4	Sat.	Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:8-10

Mar.	5	Sunday	Proverbs 18:24
Mar.	6	Monday	John 3:33-36
Mar.	7	Tuesday	John 5:17-24
Mar.	8	Wednesday	Luke 24:1-12
Mar.	9	Thursday	John 6:48-58
Mar.	10	Friday	Job 3:1-12, 20-26
Mar.	11	Saturday	Jeremiah 20:7-18

Mar.	12	Sunday
Mar.	13	Monday
Mar.	14	Tuesday
Mar.	15	Wednesd
Mar.	16	Thursday
Mar.	17	Friday
Mar.	18	Saturday



He Died and Arose Out of Love

by
Ron Sheldon

He bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of the skull...where they crucified him (John 17-18).

Christ bore not only the cross that day, but he also carried with him an even heavier burden - our sins. When he hung on the cross our sins were causing even greater agony than the agony of the physical pain. Why would God allow something like this to happen to him? The answer is a simple one; he did it because he loves you and me. The blood that he shed washed away all of the sins he carried to the cross with him. With our sins taken away he has offered to us the golden opportunity of living with him forever in the eternal glories of heaven!

Christ's work, however, did not finish on the cross. Three days later he arose from the dead (Matthew 28:6), claiming a victory over all and for all (I Corinthians 15:54); death had lost its sting, the grave has not the victory. What a comfort for all born again believers to know that all is taken care of because the God who created us also died for us and used his shed blood to make us righteous before him.

Resurrection Results

by
Teresa Galbreath

He is risen!

Christ's resurrection effects several results for the believer, four of which are especially reassuring.

First, Christ's resurrection proves that Christ provided justification for the Christian. Justification means that God declares a sinner righteous and treats him as such. The basis of this justification is Christ's blood, which was made effective through His resurrection.

A second result of Christ's resurrection is that it makes the priesthood of Christ available to the believer. As our high priest, *"He ever liveth to make intercession"* (Hebrews 7:25) for us. If Christ had not risen, he could not be our mediator by which we approach God.

Thirdly, Christians are begotten *"unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"* (I Peter 1:3). Presently, we have the living Hope of Christ in our hearts, and we possess the future hope of spending eternity in heaven.

The assurance of the future resurrection of the believer is a fourth result of Christ's resurrection. *"Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus. . ."* (II Corinthians 4:14). If we are born again, we need not fear death because Christ has risen, and God will raise us in the future.

What a comfort and assurance Christ's resurrection brings to the Christian!

Jonah 4:1-11
II Cor. 5:12-21
Romans 6:1-10
Matt. 15:1-15
Luke 12:16-34
Psalms 14
John 15:1-14

Mar. 19	Sunday	Genesis 45:1-15
Mar. 20	Monday	I Cor. 15:51-58
Mar. 21	Tuesday	I Timothy 1:1-15
Mar. 22	Wednesday	Isa. 52:13-53:12
Mar. 23	Thurs.	Matt. 26:1-16, 27-56
Mar. 24	Friday	Matthew 27:24-44
Mar. 25	Saturday	Matthew 27:45-66

Mar. 26	Sunday	Matthew 28:1-20
Mar. 27	Monday	Romans 4:13-24
Mar. 28	Tuesday	Romans 5:1-11
Mar. 29	Wednesday	Eph. 1:15-23
Mar. 30	Thursday	Hebrews 7:23-28
Mar. 31	Friday	I Peter 3:3-9

continued from page 3

careful not to lose this roll, for he would have to present it at the gate to the Celestial City.

After this, the Three Shining Ones went away and Little Christian was left to rejoice over all that the good King had done for him.

All along the way, Christian met new and different people. His first introduction was to Simple, Sloth, and Presumption. They were along the path sleeping, but their hands and feet were bound together with bands of iron.

The day was very hot, and these boys had foolishly turned out of the path to rest awhile when the servants of the Wicked Prince, who were always on the watch for careless pilgrims, had bound them. When Christian tried to waken them, they only shrugged him off, telling him to mind his own business, so he was obliged to turn away, feeling very sorry that they would not awaken and get back on the path, or believe that they were in the power of the Wicked Prince.

Presently Christian came to the foot of a hill called Difficulty. The way of the King led over the hill. It was very rough and steep, but little Christian knew that he must turn away from it.

Little Christian found the path up the hillside a very hard one. It was covered with sharp pieces of rock that hurt his feet. The mountain became steeper and steeper until at last he was obliged to creep along on his hands and knees. Finally, about half way up the hill Christian could begin to walk again. With a few more difficulties, Christian finally made it to the other side where he found a great palace called Beautiful. It was guarded by two great lions. The lions were chained, but it was dark and Christian could not see the chains. He knew that if he ventured to go by them they were surely spying on him.

Presently, the door keeper of the palace, Watchful being his name, came to the door to see if anyone was outside. He then told Christian to walk a straight path between the lions and they would not harm him. As they stood on the porch of the palace, which Christian found to be the King's own palace for his pilgrims who could stop there, a lady named Discretion came to greet them. Christian thought her face was the sweetest he had ever seen.

Next month Christian's first battle, his meeting of his new friend Faithful, his suffering for the King's sake, the seizure by the Great Giant, and more!

Let's Chatter

About a Matter

editorial by Mark Highman

I want to remind you as our reader that we are leaving this column open for YOU. If you have any comments or questions you would like answered, please feel free to write. The address is: LIVING SPRINGS, Box #601, Cedarville, Ohio 45314. Again I cannot promise that everything we receive will see print, but nothing shall escape our eye.

The reason I ask you to write is simple. LIVING SPRINGS is a unique paper within Christian circles which has been exclusive to a particular audience - the Senior Citizen. Whenever you narrow your audience you run into such problems as whether enough people are reading the material and whether it is accomplishing the goals that were set before it. If these areas are not being reached, then the paper is not worth printing. And the only way we can know, is for you to tell us. Right now you are the silent reader. I hear nothing, so I don't really know whether the response is good or bad.

I also would like to add that LIVING SPRINGS is partly supported by the Local Church in your area. They subscribe to the paper so that it can be distributed free to YOU. However this past week I found that we are not procuring the break even level, and are actually more than 1,500 issues short.

LIVING SPRINGS brings in no income. What we are doing is simply for the service of the Lord. The staff is not paid, working only for a Christian service opportunity. But the cost of printing and handling is quite high. For Christian Educational Publications to break even there needs to be at least 5,000 issues leaving Cedarville College each month. The more issues that we send out, the lower the price for the churches, and the more substantial the paper will become. Thus I ask you to pray about this situation. The record now of issues leaving our campus is 3,120. With the power that is in prayer, praise God, we can easily boost this number to 5,000 and even 10,000 issues. My hope is that the latter figure be attained before I graduate from Cedarville in June of 79. Let's make it a reality together as we join in uplifted voices to our eternal God in prayer. Remember: with God "all things are possible," (Matt. 19:26)!

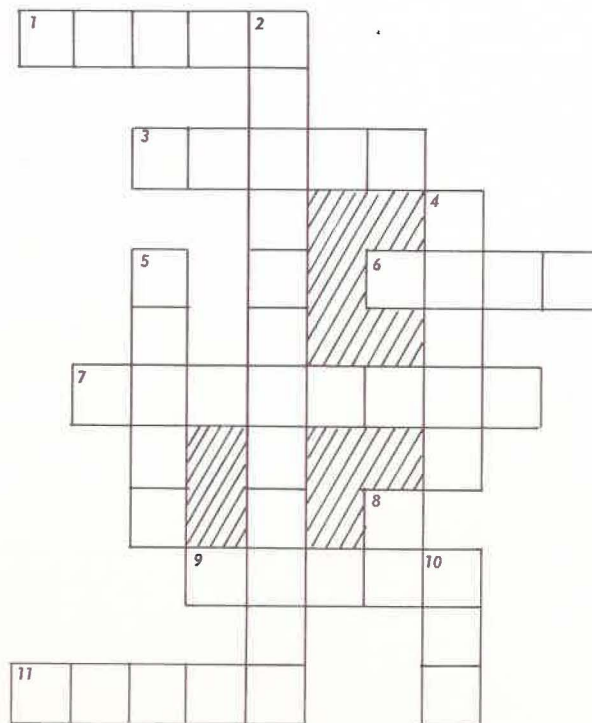
Quizzle

ACROSS

1. Phil. 3:10 - That I may know the _____ of his resurrection.
3. John 11:25 - _____ said, I am the resurrection and the life. . .
6. Rom. 8:34 - Christ that _____, maketh intercession for us.
7. Rom. 6:5 - We shall be also in the _____ of his resurrection.
9. Luke 24:34 - The Lord is _____ indeed.
11. Luke 24:34 - The Lord appeared unto _____.

DOWN

2. Acts 17:18 - Paul preached Jesus, and the _____.
4. Acts 26:23 - Christ, the _____ to rise from the dead.
5. Luke 24:7 - The Son of man must rise again the _____ day.
8. Col. 3:1 - If _____, then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above.
10. Luke 24:3 - They found _____ the body of the Lord Jesus.



ANSWERS

- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|-------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Across | 1. Power | 2. Resurrection | 3. Jesus | 4. First | 5. Third | 6. Died | 7. Likeness | 8. Ye | 9. Risen | 10. Not | 11. Simon |
| Down | | | | | | | | | | | |

Looking At God's Creation

by
Karen Payne

When the first green shoot in the spring forces its way up through the ground, what comes to mind? One usually thinks of the new life which breaks forth in abundance about this time every year.

As the coming of spring brings new hope, Christ's resurrection from the dead also gives hope to those who believe in Him. The Bible speaks of this hope: *"Knowing that he who raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus"* (II Corinthians 4:14a). Also, Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live"* (John 11:25b).

The pod of the milkweed as with many plants, will split open with the slightest provocation. In doing so many plumes containing seeds are immediately released to be carried away by the wind. As the opening of the pod happens quickly, the scriptures teach that the dead in Christ shall be raised *"In a moment, in the*



twinkling of an eye" (I Corinthians 15:52).

By looking at the pod, one can guess about when the plumes will be released, but the exact time of the release cannot be known with certainty. The Bible gives us some idea of what it will be like when Christ comes: *"But as the days of Noah were so shall also the coming of the Son of man be,"* (Matthew 24:37). However,

concerning his coming Christ says, *"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only"* (Matthew 24:36).

The seeds which contain the embryo of the milkweed lay dormant through the winter months. During this time they do not appear as if they could ever produce living plants. When one dies physically, it does not appear as if they could ever live again, but Christ has conquered death. The Bible says, *"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"*

Praise God for victory! *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"* (I Peter 1:3).

Living Springs

Box 601

Cedarville, Ohio 45314

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 4:14

"Living Springs" is a monthly publication for senior citizens, published by Christian Educational Publications in association with the Christian Service Department of Cedarville College. For subscription or other information write: Living Springs, Christian Educational Publications, Box 601, Cedarville, OH 45314.

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Photography

Harold Green
Paul Gathany
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We invite readers to submit original poetry or articles. Any material submitted to us cannot be returned, so be sure to send a spare copy. Poetry should be less than 20 lines and articles 150 words or less.